

WASHINGTON – Today, Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-17), a member of the House Budget Committee, made the following statement regarding cuts to Pell Grants, a post-secondary educational Federal grant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, in the passage of the Republican-supported Appropriations Act (H.R. 1), last week:

“House Republicans have truly put America’s workforce and families last when it comes to higher education. Over 9 million students in our country depend on this aid, and now they’ll see their benefits reduced tremendously,” said Congressman Tim Ryan. **“If we are serious about real economic development and wealth creation, then our workforce needs to be competitive by putting more students in classrooms. It’s not rocket science-- it’s common sense.”**

Pell Grants are targeted toward students from low-income families. According to the U.S. PIRG, next school year, a student currently receiving the \$5,550 maximum award would see their aid dropped to \$4,705. By 2017 students would see a \$2,090 cut to the currently projected maximum award of \$6,105. The Republican-supported Appropriations Act reduces the average Pell Grant award by \$670 in Ohio.

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